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SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ELA ERICA MILLER AND STEPHEN NEWHOUSE

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [SY](#) [EUN](#) [BE](#)
SUBJECT: BELGIUM FAVORS SOLANA AS SINGLE CONTACT POINT WITH
SARG

REF: STATE 78880

1. (SBU) MFA Middle East Office Director Francoise Gustin told POLOFF that GOB agrees with the points presented in reftel. The Belgians believe Solana should be the only one to have direct contact with the SARG. Belgium is in favor of keeping open the dialog with Syria, but thinks the EU must have a common position and Belgium will work within it, via Solana. Belgium has an Embassy in Damascus but is keeping its bilateral relations with the SARG low key.

BUSH

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